<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Please amend claims of the above-referenced application as follows:

1.   (currently amended) Process for producing an electronic color information file in a text format for color communication, wherein the <u>electronic color information</u> file ~~includes~~ <u>has</u> at least one data set describing the color impression of at least one color sample, comprising the steps of:

        making available the at least one data set in a processor;

        <u>coding said at least one data set into text;</u> and

        storing the at least one data set in a preselected data format in the color information file in a text format, such that all the information data associated with the at least one color sample and at least one of identifying, characterizing, and supplementing the at least one color sample are stored as information data in a text format containing data objects in an open, expandable, hierarchically organized object structure in the color information file.

2.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein each data object is labeled with a characterizing type description selected from a group of predefined type descriptions, wherein the type description provides details on the structure and content of the data object, and the data type description of the data object is stored in the color information file in defined relation to the information data of the data object.

3.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein at least one data object itself includes at least one hierarchically subordinate data object, wherein each subordinate data object is labeled with a characterizing type description selected from a predefined group of type descriptions, wherein the type description provides details on the structure and content of the data object, the type description of the subordinate data object being stored in the color information file in defined relation to the information data of the subordinate data object.

4.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 3, wherein a name is associated with at least one of the data object of the uppermost level of the hierarchy and the data objects respectively subordinate to a data object, which name defines the respective data objects and is stored in the color information file in defined relation to the respective data objects.

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5.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 3, wherein an explanatory description is associated with at least one of the data object of the uppermost level of the hierarchy and the data objects respectively subordinate to a data object, which explanatory description defines the respective data objects and is stored in the color information file in defined relation to the respective data objects.

6.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein at least one data object includes a subordinate data object which represents a connection pointer to another data object within or outside the color information file.

7.   (cancelled)

8.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein at least one data object includes a binary data object as information data, wherein this binary data object is stored in the color information file as symbols in MIME- compatible format.

9.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the hierarchically organized object structure of the data objects is built on the basis of a page description.

10.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 2, wherein the step of storing of the information data which are associated with the at least one color sample and at least one of identify, characterize, and complement the at least one color sample is carried out by arbitrarily selecting from a predefined group of data object types.

11.   (original) Process according to claim 10, wherein the predefined group of data object types can be expanded with additional data object types.

12.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 10, wherein the predefined group of data object types includes at least data objects for spectral data and calorimetric data.

13.   (original) Process according to claim 12, wherein the predefined group of data object types additionally includes data objects for further information data relevant for the visual impression of the color.

14.   (original) Process according to claim 12, wherein the predefined group of data object types additionally includes data objects for ICC profiles, measurement conditions, light source data and device profiles.

15.   (original) Process according to claim 12, wherein the predefined group of data object types additionally includes data objects for image data.

16.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 12, wherein the predefined group of data object types additionally includes at least one of data objects for image data and substrate describing data, wherein the image data preferably represent structure information such as surface condition or graininess of the at least one color sample to be communicated.

17.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 12, wherein the predefined group of data object types additionally includes data objects for supplementary data representable in at least one text format.

18.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein any combination of emission, remission and at least one of transmission spectra and colorimetric data are stored in the color information file.

19.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 18, wherein emission spectra of an illumination light source and remission spectra of the at least one color sample are stored in the color information file such that the illumination light source can be taken into consideration by way of a color model for the visual representation of the at least one color sample on a screen.

20.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 14, wherein an input profile and several output profiles are assigned to a color sample and stored in the color information file, and wherein the input profile is used to recalculate a color sample from a device dependent color space into a device independent color space, and wherein the output profiles are used to recalculate the color location of the color sample from the device independent color space into a selected device dependent color space and to display the color location therein.

21.   (currently amended) Communication process for communicating information relevant for visual color impression of a color sample set ~~including~~ having at least one color sample, comprising the steps of:

          ~~storing~~ coding the information represented by at least one of measured data and manually produced value data ~~at a transmitter end in a color information file in a text format~~ into text;

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storing the coded information at a transmitter end in a color information file in a text format; and

transferring the color information file to a receiver by way of a communication medium and at the receiver end again displayed in visual form, wherein all the information data associated with the at least one color sample and at least one of identifying, characterizing, and supplementing the at least one color sample, being stored as information data in a text format containing data objects in an open, expandable, hierarchically organized object structure in the color information file.

22.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 21, wherein each data object is labeled with a characterizing type description selected from a group of predefined type descriptions, wherein the type description provides details on the structure and content of the data object, and the data type description of the data object is stored in the color information file in defined relation to the information data of the data object.

23.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 21, wherein at least one data object itself includes at least one hierarchically subordinate data object, whereby each subordinate data object is labeled with a characterizing type description selected from a predefined group of type descriptions, whereby the type description provides details on the structure and content of the data object, the type description of the subordinate data object being stored in the color information file in defined relation to the information data of the subordinate data object.

24.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 21, wherein a name is associated with at least one of the data object of the uppermost level of the hierarchy and the data objects respectively subordinate to a data object, and wherein the name defined the respective data objects and is stored in the color information file in defined relation to the respective data objects.

25.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 21, wherein an explanatory description is associated with at least one of the data object of the uppermost level of the hierarchy and the data objects respectively subordinate to a data object, and wherein the explanatory description defines the respective data objects and is stored in the color information file in defined relation to the respective data objects.

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26.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 21, wherein at least one data object includes a subordinate data object which represents a connection pointer to another data object within the color information file.

27.   (cancelled)

28.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 21, wherein at least one data object includes a binary data object as information data, wherein the binary data object is stored in the color information file as symbols in MIME- compatible format.

29.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 21, wherein the hierarchically organized object structure of the data objects is built on the basis of a page description language.

30.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 22, wherein a predefined amount of data object types is made available, which define the type and structure of typical information data at least one of identifying, characterizing, and supplementing a color sample, an arbitrary selection of data object types from at least one of the predefined amount of data object types and an arbitrary combination of these data object types being used for storage of the information data assigned to the at least one color sample and at least one of identifying, characterizing, and supplementing the at least one color sample.

31.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 30, wherein the predefined group of data object types includes at least data objects for spectral data and calorimetric data.

32.   (original) Communication process according to claim 30, wherein the predefined group of data object types additionally includes data objects for further information data relevant for the visual impression of the color.

33.   (original) Communication process according to claim 30, wherein the predefined group of data object types additionally includes data objects for ICC profiles, measurement conditions, light source data and device profiles.

34.   (original) Communication process according to claim 30, wherein the predefined group of data object types additionally includes data objects for image data.

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35.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 30, wherein the predefined group of data object types additionally includes data objects for at least one of image data and substrate describing data, whereby the image data preferably represent structure information of the at least one color sample to be communicated.

36.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 30, wherein any combination of emission, remission and transmission spectra, and calorimetric data are stored in the color information file.

37.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 36, wherein emission spectra of an illumination light source and remission spectra of the at least one color sample are stored in the color information file, and at the receiving end the illumination light source is taken into consideration by way of a color model and the stored emission spectra for the visual representation of the at least one color sample on a screen.

38.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 31, wherein an input profile and several output profiles are assigned to a color sample and stored in the color information file, and wherein the color sample is recalculated from a device dependent color space into a device independent color space, and wherein the color location of the color sample is recalculated by way of the output profiles from the device independent color space into a selected device dependent color space and displayed therein.

39.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 9, wherein the hierarchically organized object structure of the data objects is built on the basis of Extensible Markup Language.

40.   (previously presented) Process according to claim 10, wherein the predefined group of data object types includes device dependent color data.

41.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 21, wherein at least one data object includes a subordinate data object which represents a connection pointer to another data object outside of the color information file.

42.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 21, wherein the hierarchically organized object structure of the data objects is built on the basis of the Extensible Markup Language.

43.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 30, wherein the predefined group of data object types includes device dependent color data.

44.   (previously presented) Communication process according to claim 35, wherein the structure information includes at least one of surface condition and graininess.